



Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools

Williamsburg, Virginia

March 25, 2011

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen of the Board of Supervisors and City Council:

The proposed 2011-2012 Operating Budget totals \$111,133,870 which represents an increase of \$1,604,420 over the current year adopted budget, or an increase of 1.5%. Most of this additional funding is due to an expected increase in Sales Tax revenue.

Although Williamsburg-James City County Schools expects an increase of 1.5%, the Division remains challenged by the economic difficulties that are being felt on the national, state and local levels. A deterioration of state support is taking its toll, and the one-time Federal stimulus funds are coming to an end. Due to the commitment of the School Board, administration, the faculty and staff, with the continued support and encouragement of the County and City, WJCC is able to protect the instructional programming the community has come to expect and richly deserves.

This budget proposal includes \$1.8 million of one-time Federal Jobs Fund revenue. It offers less flexibility to meet emerging new requirements. Yet, we are able to:

- Maintain student/teacher target ratios at this year's level
- Continue the current instructional programs in the schools
- Maintain co-curricular and athletic opportunities for our students
- Transition most special education stimulus positions to the operating budget
- Minimize layoffs of our dedicated faculty/staff
- Begin to address the recommendations made in the compensation study

All of this is **made possible by the support of our County and City**. State support is based on the General Assembly's approved budget amendments. As stated, Federal revenue reflects the use of our Jobs Fund allocation.

We certainly face financial challenges ahead as one-time Federal revenue will disappear and we will need to restore funding for equipment, professional development, etc. With the support of the County and City leaders and its citizens, all of us can be confident that we are developing a premier public school system that expresses the unique character and potential of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James P. Nickols". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a distinct 'P'.

James P. Nickols
School Board Chair
Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools